Puri-Khurdha Highway

2728. SHRI B.J. PANDA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to build the Puri-Khurdha Highway has been finalised;

(b) whether Government have allotted necessary fund for it;

(c) whether any alternative proposal such as tendering for private sector participation has been considered; and

(d) the overall status of the project and by when it is expected to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Puri to Khurdha is connected by NH-203 and NH-5 via Bhubaneshwar.

(b) Four laning of Bhubaneshwar-Khurdha section of NH-5 is already in progress as a part of Golden Quadrilateral under National Highways Development Programme. 36 km length of NH-203 has already been improved under Improvement of Riding Quality Programme. Improvement of Riding Quality in 15 km long stretch and construction of paved shoulder in 13.5 km long stretch of NH-203 have been sanctioned during Annual Plan 2001-02.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.

National Highway Development Project

2729. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any review of the progress of Rs.58,000 crore National Highway Development Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the works being undertaken and the funds allocated/ released to each State during the last three years, till date, State-wise; and